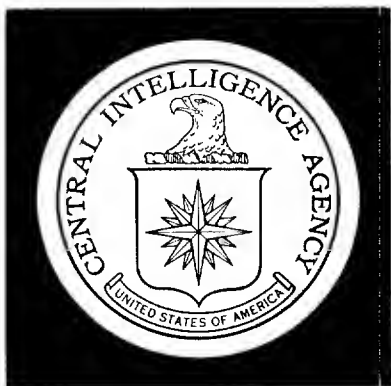


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GREECE: The struggle within the hierarchy report-
edly threatens Papadopoulos.

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GREECE: THE RECURRENT TUG-OF-WAR WITHIN THE HIERARCHY IS REPORTEDLY THREATENING THE POSITION OF PRIME MINISTER PAPADOPOULOS.

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THE US EMBASSY IN ATHENS SUGGESTS [REDACTED] THAT OPPOSITION TO THE PRIME MINISTER'S LEADERSHIP MAY COME TO A CLIMAX SOON AND MARK THE END OF PAPADOPOULOS' RULE. IT NOTES ADDITIONALLY THAT ALL ASPIRANTS TO POWER ARE BASICALLY FRIENDLY TO THE US AND STRONG SUPPORTERS OF NATO.

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AS FAR AS IT CAN BE DETERMINED, MUCH OF THE OPPOSITION IS PERSONAL IN NATURE--TO PAPADOPOULOS' LEADERSHIP STYLE--AND COMES FROM THOSE ORIGINALLY INVOLVED IN THE 1967 COUP. AT THE SAME TIME, AMBITION FOR POWER ON THE PART OF OTHER COUP PARTICIPANTS ALSO SEEMS TO BE A FACTOR. [REDACTED]

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THE CHALLENGE TO PAPADOPOULOS SURFACED EARLY THIS FALL WHEN HE THREATENED TO RESIGN OVER HIS COLLEAGUES' INSISTENCE ON GREATER PARTICIPATION IN THE GOVERNMENT. PAPADOPOULOS' CRITICS REPORTEDLY BACKED DOWN AT THAT TIME BECAUSE THEY COULD NEITHER DECIDE ON AN ALTERNATIVE TO HIM NOR MUSTER SUPPORT IN THE ARMY. TENSIONS WITHIN THE REGIME HAVE REMAINED HIGH SINCE THEN, HOWEVER, AND ACRIMONIOUS GOSSIP AGAINST PAPADOPOULOS APPARENTLY IS HURTING HIM.

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THE PRIME MINISTER IN THE PAST HAS MANEUVERED SKILLFULLY AROUND DIFFICULT SITUATIONS AND, UNLESS HE LOSES THE BACKING OF THE ARMY, HE STANDS A GOOD CHANCE OF COMING OUT ON TOP THIS TIME. [REDACTED]

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